

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SW, KS, KN, IS

SUBJECT: SWEDISH ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR UN AFFAIRS

DISCUSSES UN ISSUES

1. BERNER, SWEDISH FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF UN AFFAIRS, AND AMBASSADOR WACHTMEISTER HAD A WORKING LUNCHEON WITH ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY (IO) BLAKE ON JUNE 23. ISSUES RAISED WERE KOREA, SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON NAMIBIA, 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND POSSIBLE ISRAELI EXPULSION FROM THE UN.

2. KOREAN ITEM IN THE UN: IN RESPONSE TO BERNER'S QUESTION, AMBASSADOR BLAKE REITERATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO TERMINATE CONFIDENTIAL

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THE UN COMMAND SUBJECT TO THE OTHER SIDE'S AGREEMENT TO MAINTAIN THE ARMISTICE. EMPHASIZING EXTREME IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING CONFIDENTIALITY THIS INFORMATION, HE SAID WE WERE IN THE PROCESS OF CONSULTATIONS WITH CORE SPONSORS

AND WOULD SOON SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL WHICH STATED OUR POSITION AND NOTED THAT IN THE MEANTIME WE ARE LOWERING THE UN PROFILE. WE ALSO INTENDED TO TABLE A RESOLUTION FOR GA CONSIDERATION.

BERNER ASKED WHETHER THIS WOULD BE ENOUGH SINCE UN MEMBERS WOULD EXPECT SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION PURSUANT TO LAST YEAR'S GA RESOLUTION. BLAKE REPLIED THAT BOTH THE USSR AND PRC HAVE MADE CLEAR THEY WOULD NOT WELCOME A SC INITIATIVE. BLAKE ADDED THAT WHILE BOTH PRC AND USSR APPEARED TO WANT STABILITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AS WE DID THEY WERE NOT WILLING TO JEOPARDIZE THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH NORTH KOREA ON THIS UN ISSUE.

BERNER ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THERE WERE TWO RESOLUTIONS, ONE CALLING FOR TERMINATION OF THE UN COMMAND UNCONDITIONALLY. BLAKE STATED WE COULD NOT ANSWER THAT AT THIS POINT BUT HE DID NOT THINK ON THE BASIS OF PAST EVIDENCE THAT NORTH KOREA WOULD UNILATERALLY ABROGATE ARMISTICE ARRANGEMENTS.

3. NAMIBIA: WACHTMEISTER ASKED OUR FRANK EVALUATION OF SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON NAMIBIA. BLAKE RESPONDED THAT POSSIBILITY OF ACHIEVING UNANIMOUS SUPPORT ON RESOLUTION PUTTING PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA ENDED WHEN SWEDISH SUPPORT FOR MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO BECAME KNOWN TO AFRICANS. RESULTING TRIPLE VETO WAS INTERPRETED AS A VICTORY BY SOUTH AFRICA BUT THIS WAS NOT WHAT ANY OF THREE HAD WANTED. WHEN SWEDES IN EFFECT GAVE AFRICANS 9TH VOTE FOR MANDATORY SANCTIONS AFRICANS LOST INTEREST IN RESOLUTION WE WERE ATTEMPTING TO PROMOTE.

BERNER NOTED SWEDISH POSITION ON MANDATORY ARMS EMBARGO WAS OF LONG STANDING. HE SAID SWEDISH VIEW WAS THAT CHANGES HAD BEEN RUNG ON RESOLUTIONS AFFECTING NAMIBIA AND POINT HAD BEEN REACHED WHERE SANCTIONS WERE ONLY THING LEFT. BLAKE RESPONDED THAT WE TOOK A CONFIDENTIAL

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DIFFERENT VIEW - THAT WE SHOULD LOOK AT THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN NAMIBIA AND ATTEMPT TO DEVISE A RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD HELP POSITIVE EVOLUTION THERE. BLAKE STATED US BELIEVED NAMIBIA SITUATION DID NOT WARRANT MANDATORY SANCTIONS.

4. 7TH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNGA: THE DISCUSSION FOLLOWED THE LINE OF CIRCTEL 12992 . BLAKE DOUBTED WE WOULD HAVE DETAILED INFORMATION ON DECISIONS WHICH COULD BE ANNOUNCED VERY FAR IN ADVANCE OF 7TH SPECIAL SESSION MEETING BECAUSE OF THE TIME IT WILL TAKE FOR EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO WORK OUT CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSALS FOR COMPLICATED PROBLEMS TO BE DISCUSSED. WE PROBABLY COULD NOT AVOID

CONFRONTATION AT THE SESSION BUT WE WERE GENUINELY INTERESTED IN NEGOTIATING ON PROBLEMS OF IMPORTANCE TO THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

BERNER SAID THE SWEDISH GOVT WAS HAVING PROBLEMS WITH PROPOSALS FOR INDEXATION AND HE INDICATED THE GOS WAS DISCUSSING VARIOUS COMMODITIES ARRANGEMENTS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE WAS NOT MORE SPECIFIC THAN THAT.

5. SUSPENSION OF ISRAEL FROM UNGA: BERNER SAID THAT SWEDEN WAS TOTALLY OPPOSED TO SUSPENSION AND WOULD VOTE AGAINST IT ON THE GROUNDS OF IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING THE UN'S UNIVERSALITY. BLAKE NOTED THAT IF THINGS IN THE MIDDLE EAST WERE QUIET WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO HEAD OFF A MOVE FOR SUSPENSION, ALTHOUGH WE SHOULD NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE ABILITY OF IRAQ AND LIBYA TO PUT UP PROPOSITIONS WHICH THE OTHER ARABS WOULD HAVE TROUBLE RESISTING. WE WERE RELUCTANT TO SAY TOO MUCH TOO EARLY BUT WOULD PROBABLY MAKE OUR VIEWS KNOWN BEFORE THE LIMA NON-ALIGNED MEETING IN AUGUST.

WHEN BERNER ASKED WHAT THE US WOULD DO IN THE EVENT OF SUSPENSION, BLAKE ASKED THE SWEDISH AMBASSADOR WHAT HE THOUGHT AS SEASONED WASHINGTON OBSERVER. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE THOUGHT THE US CONGRESS WOULD CUT OFF FUNDS FOR UNGA. BLAKE NOTED THIS WAS CERTAINLY THE COMMON VIEW AROUND WASHINGTON. KISSINGER
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